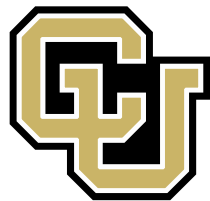# Using a Wordpress-Based Website Platform to Deliver a Longitudinal e-Learning Curriculum to Third Year Medical Students

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Educational Goals & Objectives

- Discuss the efficacy of using online learning (e-learning) as an educational approach for medical education.

- Discuss the design and utilization of an e-learning website using a Wordpress platform to augment the students' learning experiences.

- Discuss student feedback of the e-learning website used to deliver a longitudinal integrated clerkship curriculum.

- Discuss potential future enhancements to this e-learning model for longitudinal integrated learning.

e-Learning as an Educational Approach

- Internet-based (e-)learning has been successfully used in medical student education
  - Meta-analyses of e-learning for medical education suggest that students perform similarly and in some cases, better than traditional face-to-face instruction
- Potential benefits of e-learning:
  - Allows students to collaborate and share information without having to physically be in a central location
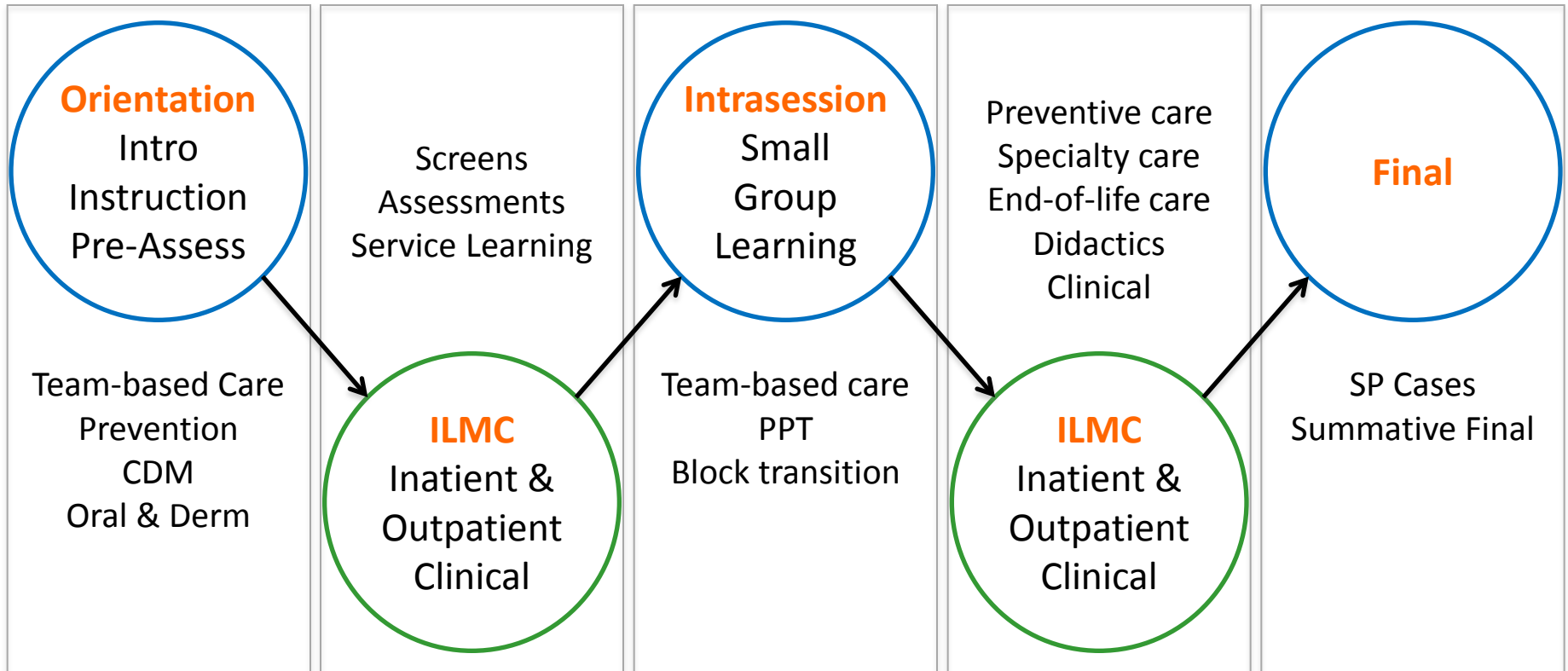 - Allows group and learning projects for rural longitudinal clerkship curricula

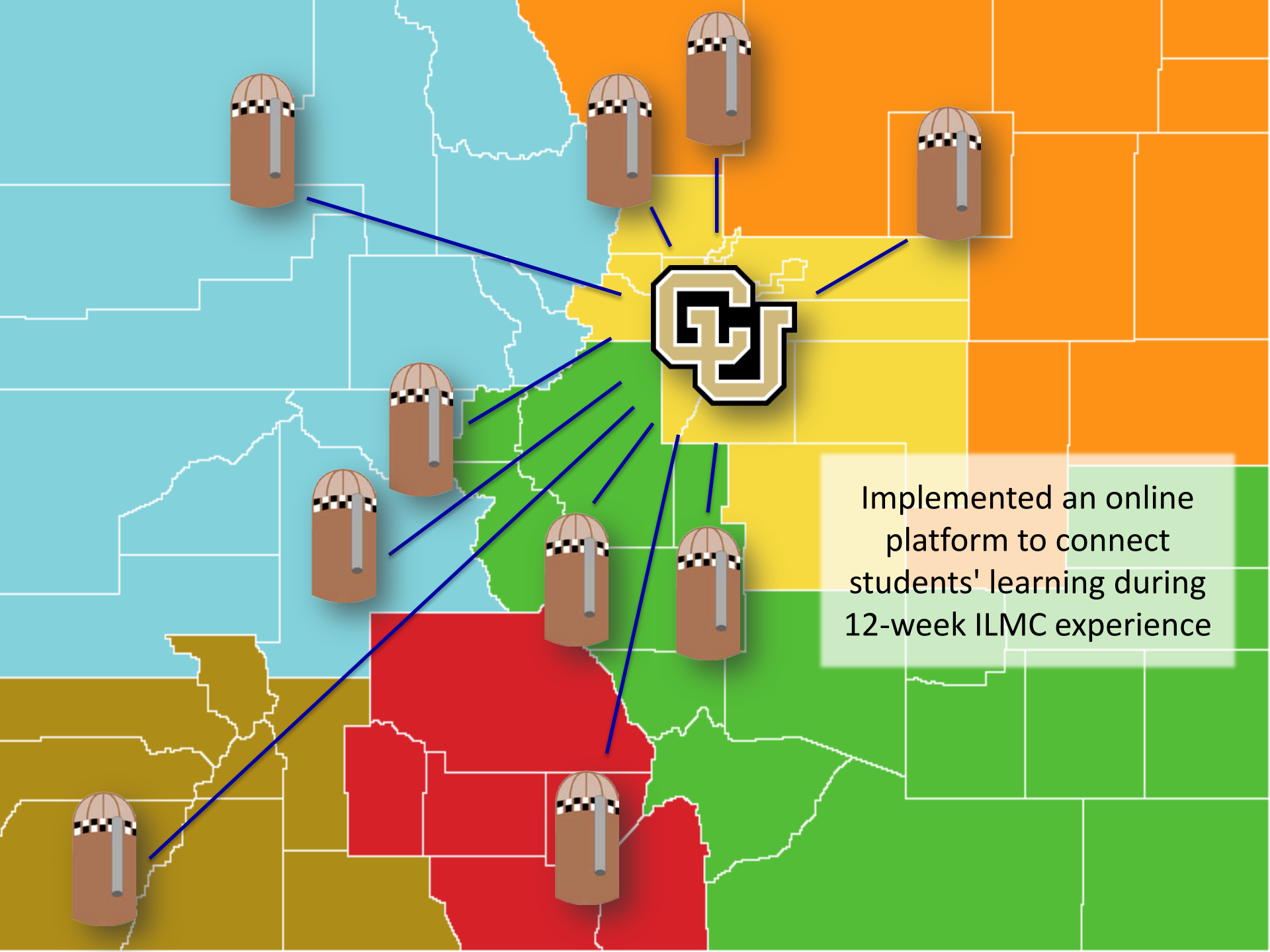*JAMA.* 2008;300(10):1181-1196 | *US Dept. of Education*. Means B. 2009.

Integrated Longitudinal Medical Clerkship Curriculum

12-week Primary Care Block → Inpatient Adult Care + Outpatient Adult Care

Effective curriculum, yet learning "siloed" in rural settings

Orientation
Intro
Instruction
Pre-Assess

Team-based Care
Prevention
CDM
Oral & Derm

Screens
Assessments
Service Learning

ILMC
Inatient &
Outpatient
Clinical

Intrasession
Small
Group
Learning

Team-based care
PPT
Block transition

Preventive care
Specialty care
End-of-life care
Didactics
Clinical

ILMC
Inatient &
Outpatient
Clinical

Final

SP Cases
Summative Final

Implemented an online platform to connect students' learning during 12-week ILMC experience

e-Learning Learning Design
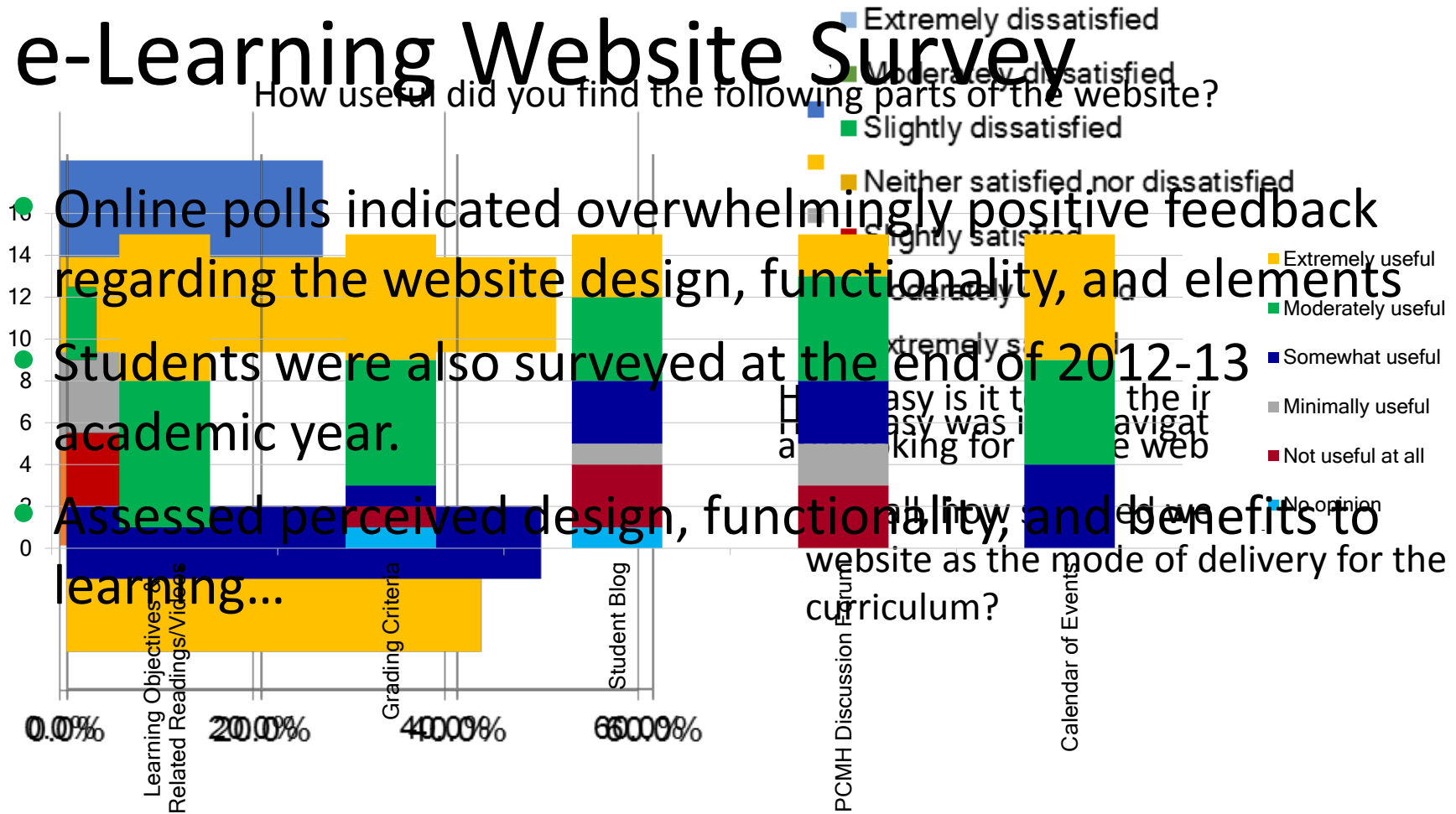
http://fmstudented.org

- **Wordpress/bbPress** (freeware)
  - Discussion Forums (integrates learning material with clinical and share personal insights/experiences)
  - Blogs (reflect on/share community service experiences)
  - Social network based on groups (students, faculty, community at large)
  - Robust media delivery
- **Adobe In-Design** (interactive flash PCMH e-learning modules)

e-Learning Website Survey

How useful did you find the following parts of the website?

- Online polls indicated overwhelmingly positive feedback regarding the website design, functionality, and elements
- Students were also surveyed at the end of 2012-13 academic year.
- Assessed perceived design, functionality, and benefits to learning...

Extremely dissatisfied
Moderately dissatisfied
Slightly dissatisfied
Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
Slightly satisfied
Moderately satisfied
Extremely satisfied

How easy is it to the ir
How easy was it to navigat
a king for the web

How ... it was ... web
website as the mode of delivery for the curriculum?

Extremely useful
Moderately useful
Somewhat useful
Minimally useful
Not useful at all
No opinion

Learning Objectives and Related Readings/Videos
Grading Criteria
Student Blog
PCMH Discussion Forum
Calendar of Events

0.0%   20.0%   40.0%   60.0%
0.0%   10.0% 20.0% 30.0% 40.0% 50.0% 60.0%

18
16
14
12
10
8
6
4
2
0

Challenges & Future Directions

Challenges:

- Initial design was time-consuming and required significant self-training in new technologies

- Some remote locations with limited internet access

Future Directions:

- Engage clinical faculty to participate in online learning discussions & expand faculty resources

- Potentially add additional discussion forms to capture and share transitions in care and continuing education learning experiences

Thank You!

Questions?